

## CLAIMS

We claim:

1           1.       A release apparatus for a clutch in a motor vehicle having a chassis, said  
2 arrangement comprising  
3               a master cylinder of a hydraulic system,  
4               a pedal for actuating said master cylinder to disengage said clutch, said pedal  
5 requiring an actuating force is plotted against pedal travel during actuation of said master  
6 cylinder to produce a characteristic curve of said actuating force,  
7               an energy accumulator which is pivotable with respect to said chassis, said  
8 accumulator storing energy when the clutch is engaged and providing a boosting force which  
9 reduces the actuating force when the clutch is disengaged, said boosting force being plotted  
10 against pedal travel to produce a characteristic curve of said boosting force, and  
11               means for influencing said curve arranged between said energy accumulator and  
12 said pedal.

1           2.       A release apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said means for influencing said  
2 characteristic curve comprises a kinematic arrangement.

1           3.       A release apparatus as in claim 2 wherein said kinematic arrangement is  
2 an over-center arrangement having a dead center during said pedal travel, said characteristic  
3 curve being adapted to modify said characteristic curve primarily beyond said dead center.

1           4.       A release apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said actuating force has a  
2 maximum which is reduced by boosting force.

1                   5.       A release apparatus as in claim 2 wherein said kinematic arrangement  
2 comprises a swivel lever and a transmission lever.

1                   6.       A release apparatus as in claim 5 wherein said pedal having an arm  
2 extending toward said energy accumulator, said swivel lever having a first joint at said chassis  
3 and a second joint at said energy accumulator, said transmission lever connecting said second  
4 joint to a third joint at the arm of the pedal.

1                   7.       A release mechanism as in claim 2 wherein said pedal has an arm  
2 extending toward said energy accumulator, said kinematic arrangement comprising a cam  
3 follower with a rolling cam, and a roller on the arm of said pedal.

1                   8.       A release mechanism as in claim 7 wherein said cam follower has a first  
2 joint at said chassis and a second joint at said energy accumulator, said moving along said rolling  
3 cam and pivoting said cam follower when said clutch is disengaged.

1                   9.       A release mechanism as in claim 2 wherein said pedal has an end provided  
2 with a rolling cam, said kinematic arrangement comprising a spring having a first end connected  
3 to said chassis and a second end carrying a roller which is pressed against said rolling cam by  
4 said spring.

1                   10.      A release mechanism as in claim 9 wherein said spring comprises a leg  
2 spring having a leg anchored in said chassis.